

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

IO-10 OMB-01 SCCT-01 NIC-01 SAJ-01 SY-05 /082 W

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R 031507Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1922

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 1161

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: POLITICAL AND ELECTORAL ROUNDUP

REF: (A) LISBON 1088

(B) LISBON 1147

1. PDC/CDS ELECTORAL ALLIANCE:

MEMBER OF CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS (PDC) RECENTLY-ELECTED DIRECTORATE

TOLD EMBOFF THAT PDC'S ELECTORAL ALLIANCE WITH CENTER SOCIAL

DEMOCRATIC PARTY (CDS) WAS PRODUCT OF PRESSURE ON PDC SECY-GEN.

SANCHES OSORIO BY OTHER EUROPEAN CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC LEADERS

AT MID-FEB. HAUGE CONFERENCE. EUROPEANS REPORTEDLY INSISTED

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ON UNITY AS CONDITION FOR EXTENDING ASSISTANCE (BASICALLY

TECHNICAL, ALTHOUGH SOME MONEY MAY ALSO BE INVOLVED). SANCHES OSORIO RETURNED TO PRESENT PDC DIRECTORATE WITH VIRTUAL FAIT ACCOMPLI. DIRECTORATE RATIFIED AGREEMENT, ALTHOUGH MEMBERS NOT HAPPY AND SOME (INCLUDING PDC'S NUMBER TWO) ARE CONSIDERING LEAVING. PDC LEADERSHIP AWARE THAT ASSOCIATION WITH CDS CARRIES DANGER PDC WILL SHARE "FASCIST" STIGMA ATTACHED TO CDS. ASIDE FROM EUROPEAN SUPPORT, HOWEVER, PDC EXPECTS TO GAIN FROM ACCESS TO CDS'S NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE (REF A), THE PDC'S CURRENT STRUCTURE BEING INADEQUATE TO NEEDS OF UPCOMING CAMPAIGN.

2. CDS, PDC CALL FOR END TO POLITICAL VIOLENCE:

CDS AND PDC HAVE BOTH ISSUED CALLS FOR GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES TO CRACK DOWN ON GROUPS RESPONSIBLE FOR PHYSICAL ATTACKS ON POLITICAL MEETINGS. CDS' COMMUNIQUE WAS ISSUED BEFORE, PDC'S AFTER, FEB. 28 DENUNCIATION OF POLITICAL VIOLENCE BY ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT'S COORDINATING COMMITTEE (REF B). TWO PARTIES' COMMUNIQUE'S ARE IDENTICAL IN AIM BUT DIFFER IN TONE. CDS DEMANDED THAT AUTHORITIES ACT; PDC NOTED COORDINATING COMMITTEE'S DENUNCIATION WITH SATISFACTION. CDS REFERRED TO ATTACKS AGAINST PPD, PCP, AND PDC RALLIES; PDC REFERRED TO ACTS OF VANDALISM. CDS COMPALINED ABOUT ARMED POLITICAL GROUPS LIKE LUAR; PDC DENOUNCED HOODLUMS.

3. WEEKEND PASSES WITHOUT POLITICAL VIOLENCE:

FOLLOWING COORDINATING COMMITTEE'S DENUNCIATION OF VIOLENCE, NOTHING VIOLENT HAS HAPPENED. CONSIDERING VIOLENT DISTURBANCES OVER LAST FEW WEEKS, THS "NON-EVENT" ITSELF IS NOTEWORTHY.

4. DEADLINE FOR LEGALIZATION ARRIVES:

AS OF FEB. 28 FOURTEEN POLITICAL GROUPS HAD APPLIED FOR LEGAL RECOGNITION AS PARTIES. MARCH 3 DEADLINE IS HERE, WITH INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST LEAGUE (LCI) MOST PROMINENT OF SMALLER GROUPS REMAINING TO SEEK LEGALIZATION. (LCI ANNOUNCED ON FEB. 27 ITS INTENTION TO LEGALIZE.) MARCH 3 IS ALSO DEADLINE FOR FORMATION OF ELECTORAL COALITIONS. PDC/CDS COALITION IS CONSPICUOUS IN BEING ONLY ONE FORMED AS OF NEXT-TO-LAST MOMENT ALLOWED BY LAW, ALTHOUGH LEFT AND FAR-LEFT GROUPS MAY STILL MANAGE UNITE AT ELEVENTH HOUR.

5. PPD REVEALS CANDIDATES:

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PARTIDO POPULAR DEMOCRATICO (PPD) HAS REVEALED NAMES OF ITS CANDIDATES IN ALL 22 ELECTORAL DISTRICTS, WITH ONE ADDITIONAL CANDIDATE FOR EMIGRANT CONSTITUENCY. PPD SECY-GEN SA CARNEIRO HEADS LIST IN OPORTO, PPD MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO MAGALHAES MOTA HEADS LISBON LIST.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARTY LINE, POLITICAL PARTIES, NATIONAL ELECTIONS, PARTY LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LISBON01161
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750074-0361
From: LISBON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750389/aaaadchg.tel
Line Count: 113
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 LISBON 1088
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 MAY 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <15 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POLITICAL AND ELECTORAL ROUNDUP
TAGS: PINT, PO, CDS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006